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- LORIA, A. *Les bases économiques de la justice internationale*. (Paris: Giard et Brière. 1913. 4 fr.)
- PARMELEE, M. *The science of human behavior. Biological and psychological foundations*. (New York: Macmillan. 1912. Pp. xvi, 443. \$2.)
- PENSON, T. H. *The economics of everyday life. A first book of economic study*. Part I. (London: Cambridge University Press. 1913. Pp. 190. 3s.)
- SAMSONOFF, B. *Esquisse d'une théorie générale de la rente. Suivie d'une critique des principales opinions émises sur le même sujet*. (Lausanne, Switzerland: F. Rouge & Cie. 1912. Pp. 245.)
- SOMMARIN, E. *Var ekonomi och politik*. (Stockholm: Geber. 1912. Pp. 315.)
- A study of economic theory—division of labor, production and distribution; and of practical economics—commerce and industry, finance, and social politics including an exposition of conservatism, liberalism, and socialism.
- WEST, J. *John Stuart Mill*. Fabian tract No. 168. Bibliographical series No. 4. (London: Fabian Society. 1913. Pp. 23. 2d.)
- *Verhandlungen der ersten Hauptversammlung der internationalen Vereinigung für vergleichende Rechtswissenschaft und Volkswirtschaftslehre in Berlin zu Heidelberg vom 3. bis 9. September 1911*. (Berlin: Franz Vahlen. 1912. Pp. 666. 15.50 m.)

### Economic History and Geography

*The New Democracy*. By WALTER E. WEYL. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1912. Pp. viii, 370. \$2.00.)

It is the reviewer's judgment, based upon repeated careful reading of the book, that Weyl's *New Democracy* is one of the most valuable studies of American political, economic, and social conditions that has yet been made. The book is broadly and deeply philosophical, and at the same time bears in every paragraph evidence of ripe scholarship and a painstaking gathering and study of materials that have been mastered and distilled rather than thrown at the reader in a welter of tables and documents, dates and footnotes. Indeed, it is so readable—so artfully is its art concealed—that an ironical mind might be moved to query how it came to be written by one who has spent more than the allotted prentice years in the graduate schools of American universities. In this respect, as in particular conclusions reached by the author, the disciple of Patten has given heed to the exhortation of the master. A review may often properly be designed in part to avoid or lessen for others the need of reading the book reviewed. *The New Democracy* cannot be thus treated. It is one of Bacon's

"few to be chewed and digested"; "to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention." The following brief abstract is offered in support of this assertion.

"The disenchantment of America" (ch. 1) with our old-time democracy is coincident with the birth of a new democracy, of a "new spirit, critical, concrete, insurgent." This new spirit is not yet self-conscious, does not know whether to look forward or backward, is still negative, as was early Protestantism:

As it becomes positive, the new spirit seeks to explain itself, and in so doing to understand itself. It seeks to test its motives and ideals in their relation to American history and conditions. Is our new democracy merely the old democracy in a new coat? Is it a return to the past or a turning from the past? Is it an imported creed or a belief of native growth? Is it a high-hung Utopia or an attainable end? Is it a destruction, or a fulfillment, of the fundamental law of American development? Whence does it come? Whither does it lead? What is it and what is it to be? What does it mean, for better or worse, to the common run of us?

This new spirit of a new democracy the author seeks to explain and analyze in the following chapters in such fashion as to answer the questions just quoted.

America, dreaming of a democracy, while yet no democracy could be, made "the shadow democracy of 1776" (ch. 2). Some beginnings had been made in putting substance behind the shadow when, in 1831, the country had to give over its leadership here to take up its historic mission of "the conquest of a continent" (ch. 3). This task explains "the individualistic spirit of America" (ch. 4) and "the sovereign American and his state" (ch. 5). Its latter-day result has been "the plutocratic reorganization" (ch. 6) of our industry and "our resplendent plutocracy" (ch. 7). "The plutocracy in politics" (ch. 8) is finally compelled to attempt the control of public opinion (ch. 9), and in the last analysis is now on trial to prove its efficiency (ch. 10). But within, society is gradually evolving "the new social spirit" (ch. 11) which is to give us a real democracy, not through a class war (ch. 12), but through a new national adjustment; not through increasing poverty of any class, but through the increasing wealth of America, which will furnish the motives and the means for that democracy (ch. 13). This social surplus—a really new thing under the sun—will make practicable and attainable as our immediate goals new "levels of democratic striving" (ch. 14); an economic level, above the poverty line of Rowntree; an intellectual level far above mere literacy; and a political level well above the suffrage line.

This review would be incomplete if it failed to mention that Dr. Weyl's book has already had a wide and strong influence on recent political movements and opinion. It seems certain that in the days before us this influence will be multiplied. It should be a source of gratification to members of the American Economic Association that one of their number has been able to escape the aridity and formalism of the schools and by a rare combination of insight and research so present the fruits of scholarship that the wayfaring man may read.

GEORGE RAY WICKER.

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*Economic Beginnings of the Far West. How We Won the Land Beyond the Mississippi.* Vol. I. *Explorers and Colonizers.* Vol II. *American Settlers.* By KATHARINE COMAN. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1912. Pp. xix, 418; ix, 450; illustrated. \$4.00.)

They who cannot understand how a book can possibly be interesting and at the same time scholarly will suspect the scholarship of this book until they examine it critically. It is narrative in style and does not eliminate the dramatic features of the long struggle which was eventually to bring the vast territory beyond the Mississippi under the dominion of the United States, and the greater part of it under the influence and control of that type of American civilization which is commonly called "The North." Volume I, which is devoted to the subject of explorers and colonizers, bears on the outside cover, as the symbol of the period which it describes, a picture of the beaver trap, while volume II, devoted to the subject of American settlers, bears as its equally significant symbol, a miner's rocker of 1848. The narrative covers the most dramatic episodes in American history, such as the early Spanish explorers of the Southwest; the mission fathers and their settlements; the Santa Fé trade over the old trail of picturesque memory; the Russian settlements of the Northwest; the fur trade and the vast explorations carried on in the quest of the beaver; the explorers of the great West—English, French, Spanish and American; the struggle for Oregon; the Mormon migration; the conquest of Texas, New Mexico and California; and, finally, the struggle between rival types of American civilization for the possession of Kansas.

It is easy to be carried away by the story, and if one were to